Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 AID-05 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-05 CEA-01 DLOS-09 OES-07 /118 W

P 190911Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8317 AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL TELAVIV 7005

E.O.11652: GDS TAGS: EGEN, IS, SF

SUBJ: ISRAELI-SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMIC TIES

- 1. AN AFP STORY OF SEPT 15 CARRIED BY FBIS REPORTS THAT FINANCE MINISTER EHRLICH WILL SOON VISIT SOUTH AFRICA.
- 2. EMBOFF ON SEPT 18 REQUESTED DETAILS OF VISIT FROM MFA SOURCE, WHO PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS:

A. EHRLICH WILL ATTEND FIRST MEETING OF ISRAEL-SOUTH AFRICA MIXED COMMISSION SET UP DURING PM VOSTER'S 1976 VISIT TO ISRAEL.

- B. ECONOMIC SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO ISRAEL ARE:
- 1) MORE SOUTH AFRICAN INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL.
- 2) EXPANDED SALES OF STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
- 3) PERMISSION FOR GREATER FREQUENCY OF EL AL FLIGHT TO SOUTH AFRICA.
- 4) ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT CONTINUING FISHING OFF SOUTH AFRICA'S ATLANTIC COAST SHOULD NAMIBIAN PORTS NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE.

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3. SOURCE SAID THAT GOI REALIZED THAT IT PAID A PUBLIC RELATIONS PRICE FOR ITS SOUTH AFRICAN CONNECTION, BUT THOUGHT THAT THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE GAINED AND THE NEED FOR ISRAEL TO KEEP CLOSE TIES WITH THE LARGE AND SUPPORTIVE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SOUTH AFRICA MADE IT WORTHWHILE. VIETS

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Message Attributes

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